

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORTING

SECRET

to: 23/5/78 By: 009

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and none can be made as they are dependent on cantonal elections which may yet be held this fall. ~~Comment:~~ Councillors of the Republic are elected by indirect vote in which cantonal and municipal electors participate.)

8. According to SOUSTELLE, the Communists will not attempt to seize power by force. He believes that should they attempt a coup they would be opposed effectively by other parties, the public, police and army. He thinks, though, that they might rather attempt to re-enter the Government in a coalition called "Democratic Union". To do this, he says, they might attempt a maneuver calling for the support of Edouard BERAUDOT. By doing so, the Communists believe, according to SOUSTELLE, they might participate in a Radical Socialist Government. In the event of the formation of such a government, the Communists would not demand cabinet posts for their prominent leaders, but would settle for the inclusion of such men as Pierre COT, Able PIERRE and Dreyfus SCHMID.

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